

PROPOSITION 101

OFFICIAL TITLE

AN INITIATIVE MEASURE

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; AMENDING ARTICLE II OF THE ARIZONA CONSTITUTION BY ADDING SECTION 36 OF ARTICLE II; RELATING TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE.

TEXT OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Be it enacted by the People of Arizona:

1. Article II, Section 36: Constitution of Arizona is proposed to be added as follows if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor:

ARTICLE II, SECTION 36. BECAUSE ALL PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR HEALTH CARE, NO LAW SHALL BE PASSED THAT RESTRICTS A PERSON'S FREEDOM OF CHOICE OF PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS OR PRIVATE PLANS OF ANY TYPE. NO LAW SHALL INTERFERE WITH A PERSON'S

OR ENTITY'S RIGHT TO PAY DIRECTLY FOR LAWFUL MEDICAL SERVICES, NOR SHALL ANY LAW IMPOSE A PENALTY OR FINE, OF ANY TYPE, FOR CHOOSING TO OBTAIN OR DECLINE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE OR FOR PARTICIPATION IN ANY PARTICULAR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM OR PLAN.

2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the voters at the next general election as provided by Article XXI, of the Constitution of Arizona.

ANALYSIS BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Proposition 101 would amend the Arizona Constitution to provide that no law shall:

1. Restrict a person's freedom to choose a private health care plan or system of their choice.
2. Interfere with a person's or entity's right to pay directly for lawful medical services.
3. Impose a penalty or fine, of any type, for choosing to obtain or decline health care coverage.
4. Impose a penalty or fine, of any type, for participation in any particular health care system or plan.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

State law requires the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) Staff to prepare a summary of the fiscal impact of certain ballot measures. Proposition 101 is not estimated to have a state fiscal impact. The proposition may affect future operation of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and state employee health benefits. The impact on these programs cannot be determined in advance.

ARGUMENTS "FOR" PROPOSITION 101

As an orthopedic surgeon, there is no greater satisfaction than seeing your patients get back to doing what they like to do. Helping patients achieve their goals means honoring their wishes to pursue the care that they believe is best.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act keeps patients in control of their health and health care.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act protects people from having their health care choices dictated by government-appointed bureaucrats.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act preserves our rights to seek second opinions, choose alternative care, and keep our medical records private.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act makes patient freedom the top priority in health care reform.

Do not let special interests turn health care reform into another way of using taxpayer money to enrich them at the expense of your health.

Join me in voting FOR protecting OUR HEALTH CARE RIGHTS.

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 101!

Eric Novack, MD, Chairman, Medical Choice for Arizona, Glendale

Paid for by "Medical Choice for Arizona"

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT

On behalf of the Arizona chapter of Americans for Prosperity (www.aztaxpayers.org), we encourage all Arizona taxpayers and health care consumers to vote YES on Prop 101, the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

One of the hallmarks of the American free enterprise system is freedom of choice. When consumers are free to choose, the result is higher quality and lower prices. But over the past 60 years, our national and state governments have increasingly intervened in the health care marketplace, restricting consumer choice. America still has the highest-quality health care in the world, but prices have increased much faster than productivity in the medical sector. As a result, many Americans find health insurance unaffordable. Others are afraid to change jobs, because of their dependence on employer-provided health insurance.

Our concern is that some of the health care "reform" proposals put forth by special interest groups (including some big insurance companies) attempt to reduce costs by further restricting the choices of health care consumers. That is the opposite of what Americans need. We should reduce costs by increasing freedom of choice for health care consumers, and by making sure that patients in need have the widest possible variety of medical options.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will guarantee that the government cannot take away our right to make our own health care choices. We urge you to vote YES on Prop 101.

Chad Kirkpatrick, Arizona Chairman, Americans for Prosperity, Phoenix

Paid for by "Americans for Prosperity"

Tom Jenney, Arizona Director, Americans for Prosperity, Phoenix

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT

I have been a general surgeon for 30 years now. In that time, I have seen miraculous advances in medical technology and pharmaceuticals. There are conditions and diseases that, when I began my medical practice, were considered untreatable, but today we can actually cure.

Helping people deal with pain, death, and fear has taught me how important it is for people to have control over their own health care decisions. People need to know all the options that exist for them—including non-traditional "alternative" options. They need to know that they will always be able to exercise those options, even if that means paying directly for some of them.

I may be a doctor, but I am well aware that I will also someday be a patient. All of us may face pain and serious illness, and certainly death one day. It's the great equalizer.

That's why I am working to pass Proposition 101, "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act." I know, more than most that, our health care system badly needs reform. But I have seen how other nations—and now some of our own states—have passed reforms that restrict the ability of people to choose or obtain the medicines, tests, doctors, health plans, or treatments that they desire—even

if they are willing to pay directly for them. I don't want any reforms to have those consequences, however unintended.

Proposition 101 says, "Reform, but protect Choice." Vote YES on Prop. 101.

Jeffrey A. Singer, MD, FACS, Treasurer, Medical Choice for Arizona, Phoenix

Paid for by "Medical Choice for Arizona"

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF "THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT"

If my years in government and business have taught me anything, they have taught that whenever the political system tries to tackle a problem that involves billions of dollars, the special interests come out of the woodwork to fight for their piece of the pie. Oftentimes, well-intentioned attempts at reform degenerate into a pork-pulling wrestling match.

As we head into the election of 2008, health care reform is on the front burner. And it should be. Our system, which offers the best health care in the world, has costs that are out of control, and people are finding themselves priced out of the market. But my biggest fear is that once the politicians sit down with the special interests to fix the system, the only party not represented at the table will be us patients.

The special interests will be good at making sure their bottom line is protected—even if that means patients' choices get restricted.

But if we patients lose control over our health care decisions, one of our most precious freedoms, then we will no longer be free. We will be hostages of the special interests and their political friends.

"The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" guarantees that, whatever health care reform is eventually enacted, it can never trespass on our right to make our own health care choices. That's why I urge you to vote YES on Prop. 101.

John R. Norton, Former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture; CEO, J.R. Norton Company, Phoenix

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 101.

We Arizonans have the opportunity of voting for Proposition 101 which will ensure that no matter what changes occur to fix our health care delivery system or make it more affordable, that our freedom to choose a plan, doctor or get second opinions will be preserved. The last thing we want as patients is to be restricted by government bureaucrats or lobbyists as to what procedures we can receive especially for a life threatening illness or condition.

Proposition 101 ensures that we are free to choose in the future the kinds of treatments that we receive and that we have control over our most personal decisions along with the advice of our trusted physicians.

When our nation was founded, Benjamin Rush, signer of the Declaration of Independence, fought to have medical freedom protected in our Bill of Rights alongside our first amendment right to freedom of speech and of the press. He thought it necessary to make sure that the government could never decide or dictate your health care in the ever evolving and changing world of medicine. Never has that risk been greater than today.

By voting YES on Proposition 101, you are in control of your health care choices regardless of what ever changes may be made in the future.

Please VOTE YES on Proposition 101! To protect yourself and your families ability to control your health care destiny.

Lori Klein, Executive Director, Medical Choice for Arizona, Anthem

Paid for by "Medical Choice for Arizona"

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT

As a neurosurgeon at the Barrow Neurological Institute, I utilize the latest in cutting edge technology to provide the best care to patients suffering from complex neurological diseases, such as brain tumors and aneurysms.

As these new technologies continue to arise, the costs of providing state-of-the-art medical care rise as well. Increased health care costs make it harder and harder for all of our residents to get health insurance. I worry that many Arizonans cannot afford to purchase health insurance. Reforms are needed.

Many nations--and now many of the states of OUR nation--have made attempts to deal with the problem of the uninsured. But what frightens me is that in most--if not all--of these instances, the reforms have resulted in restricting the ability of patients to choose their own doctors; or to seek a new and innovative form of therapy--or an alternative form of therapy; or to get a second or third opinion; or to purchase the type of health insurance plan that best suits their needs.

We must not let that happen here in Arizona. We need reform, but we must preserve freedom of choice.

Each and every one of us will be a patient one day.

We must retain the right to make our own health care choices. The "Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" will guarantee, in our state Constitution, the preservation of medical choice.

Please join me in voting YES on Proposition 101.

Robert F. Spetzler, M.D., FACS, Phoenix

Argument for Proposition 101

As an orthopaedic surgeon, I have devoted most of my adult life to eliminating the pain and suffering that patients immobilized by severe joint disease must endure. Many of these patients have come to me from other countries, such as Canada, where their health care systems make them wait months, and sometimes years, to get the kind of surgical intervention that Americans expect to receive in a timely manner.

I have witnessed firsthand how government-managed health care systems can, and do, fail to provide the care they claim to guarantee. I have seen patients come here from other countries seeking medications, doctors, and treatments that they are denied, by law, in their own countries.

The health care systems from which these people flee were all designed with the best intentions. They were created to obtain the most health care coverage for the most people; however, the realities cannot be ignored. In an effort to deliver health care that is cost-effective to the taxpayers, these systems have limited options, choice, and quality care to the very people they were designed to help.

When we reform our health care system, I want to ensure that the right of all patients to make their own health care choices is not violated. This includes the right to directly purchase the type of care they want. If people lose control over their own health care decisions, they lose control over their lives.

"The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" guarantees in the Arizona Constitution, that the right of all patients to make their own health care choices will never be infringed. I urge you to vote YES on Proposition 101.

Anthony K. Hedley, MD, FRCS; President, Arizona Institute for Bone & Joint Disorders, Phoenix

ARGUMENT FOR PROPOSITION 101

My years in practice in clinical internal medicine in central Phoenix, treating diverse people from all walks of life has taught me

that there is no more personal or precious right than the right to make your own decisions regarding your health care. Whether we are dealing with a fatal disease like cancer or a painful, disabling disease like arthritis, patients must be able to make their own choices about the kinds of treatments, tests, and doctors they want to see.

They must be free to choose alternative methods of care—even if the bureaucratic establishment does not recognize them. A central part to being a patient is deciding how, why, and where you pay for your healthcare. It is time to constitutionally protect patients from government and bureaucracies that may seek to take away our inalienable rights as patients to choose the financial arrangements of our own health care.

My recent service as President of the Arizona Medical Association brought me face to face with politicians, bureaucrats, and special interest groups, all of whom had their own ideas about what kinds of health care options should be made available to patients. Whether they were well-intentioned politicians, budget-conscious bureaucrats, or profit-driven insurance companies, they all thought they knew better than the patients did about health care decisions.

Ultimately, no right is more fundamental than the right to life. And no life is free without the right to make one's own health care decisions.

The "Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" will guarantee in the Arizona Constitution that no legislation can ever take that right from us.

That's why I urge you to vote YES on Proposition 101, "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act."

M. Zuhdi Jasser, MD, Past President, Arizona Medical Association, Phoenix

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF "THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT"

I have been a family physician in rural Arizona for over 30 years. If there is one thing that I have come to appreciate during that time, it is the value of choice and options for patients seeking health care.

Rural areas of the state are often lacking in many of the specialty and other health care services that urban areas provide. In some parts of the state, patients sometimes need to travel long distances or wait for lengthy periods to get essential health care services.

Our health care system is in need of reform. But when that reform occurs, I worry that special interests and budgetary concerns might result in rural Arizonans holding the short end of the stick.

I want to make sure that, whatever type of health care reform is enacted, it isn't a reform that takes away the peoples' right to choose what kind of doctor or service they want—even if they are willing to pay for it directly. I want to make sure people retain the right to choose whether or not they want to participate in any particular health plan.

When the politicians at the state capitol hammer out a health care reform package, I want to make sure that the Arizona Constitution guarantees that the rights of the people—urban OR rural—to make their own health care decisions, shall not be infringed. "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" places that guarantee in the Arizona Constitution.

I urge you to vote YES on "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act."

Mark Ivey Jr., MD, Past President, Arizona Medical Association, Payson

Chiropractors understand the impact powerful special interests can have on a profession. Over the years, lobbyists have attempted repeatedly to make it more and more difficult for patients to have chiropractic care as an option for certain health problems.

The opportunity to protect the ability of patients to be in control of their health and health care and to determine which approaches and treatments are the most appropriate for them does not come along often.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act elevates people above bureaucrats and back room, closed-door deals.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will keep patients in control over their health.

Voting YES on PROPOSITION 101 means that the people of Arizona will continue to have the broadest number of health care options available to them and their families.

The members of the Arizona Chiropractic Society proudly endorse The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act as an effort to keep Arizonans healthy!

No one can predict when or if they will be injured or sick. No one treatment works for everybody. Having choices can mean the difference between persistent pain and restored health. The best recipe to maximize health requires keeping patients in control over their health and health care.

VOTE YES ON THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT!

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 101

Alan M. Immerman, DC, President and Executive
Director, Arizona Chiropractic Society, Phoenix

Jennifer Haggard, DC, Vice-President, Arizona
Chiropractic Society, Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Chiropractic Society"

Our state and nation's health care systems are at risk.

For 100 years, the Arizona Dental Association and its members have been committed to advancing the dental and oral health of the public through leadership, education, and research. Our members are dedicated to providing preventive and restorative dental and oral health care to everyone in Arizona, **tailored to their individual needs and we wholeheartedly support The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.**

Giving government complete control over what care you can receive and when, is not the solution. One system does not fit all. No single system should remove your personal freedom to decide the direction and treatment for you and your family.

The Arizona Dental Association believes that dental and oral health must begin with the protection of your right to decide which treatment options are best for you and your family.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act protects and serves patients, not dentists. It will protect the freedom to choose which treatment best fits your needs, the ability to seek out second opinions, the right to decide which dentist is best for you and your children—basic rights that should never be negotiable.

A YES vote on the Initiative is a vote for the protection of your rights.

The Arizona Dental Association, representing 80% of all dentists in Arizona, is proud to encourage Arizonans to VOTE YES to preserve patient choice; VOTE YES to limit lobbyists and special interests; and VOTE YES to protect your RIGHTS.

Please vote YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Regina E. Cobb, DDS, President, Arizona Dental
Association, Scottsdale

Todd Hellwig, DDS, Treasurer, Arizona Dental
Association, Scottsdale

Paid for by "Arizona Dental Association"

All people in Arizona will have their health care rights protected by voting YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

As an operating room nurse, and now as a nurse practitioner, I see firsthand how important it is for patients to be in charge of their health care. As a mother, I want my daughter to continue to have as many choices as possible for her health and health care. No bureaucrat should be able to prevent patients from seeking out the care they believe is best.

Proposition 101 means you and I will always have more rights over our health than any special interest, no matter how much money the special interest spends on lobbyists.

Campaign contributions should not be allowed to determine the future of our health care system.

Protect ALL of OUR HEALTH CARE RIGHTS.

Vote YES on Proposition 101.

Vote YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Daria Pacheco, RN, MSN, FNP-RNFA, Nurse Practitioner, Phoenix

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will preserve and protect patients' rights, and as a patient, I support the initiative.

A one-size-fits-all government run health care plan will make no one happy except special interest groups, especially the insurance and pharmaceutical industries. These two industries have far too much influence over our health already, and we are worse for it.

In a survey of 79 oncologists from McGill University Cancer Center, 64 said they themselves would not consent to treatment with Cisplatin, a common chemotherapy drug, while 58 oncologists said they would reject all the current trials being carried out by their establishment. Why? "The ineffectiveness of chemotherapy and its unacceptable degree of toxicity." But cancer is big business. Standard chemo and radiation will likely be Standard of Care for another 50 years, despite the better alternatives out there. Why? The influence of drug companies upon medical school curriculums and doctor education programs.

In a one-size-fits-all government run health care world, we would not be able to choose other alternative methods. Even if we wanted to pay out of pocket for something else, we would not be able to. We would be told exactly what we can do, and what we cannot. My health is a very, very, personal matter. You bet I want to have something to say about it.

Too many special interest groups find it profitable when people are sick. A health care system in the hands of bureaucrats and special interests will put someone else's profitability above my health. There is too much pressure upon elected officials to funnel our health care dollars into the pockets of special interest groups. Our basic right to choose is coming under attack and must be protected in the state constitution.

Tina Halvorsen, Peoria

All Arizonans should support the proposed amendment to the state constitution entitled, The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

We need to make certain that, whatever legislation ultimately is approved by the Arizona Legislature or voters, any unintended consequences of such legislation do not impact on the people's right to make their own health care choices and decisions. Given the growing political clout of those who stand to profit enormously by certain health care schemes, our fundamental medical rights need to be protected within the Arizona Constitution.

Without constitutional protection, future "reforms" will be shaped by lobbyists, not by patients.

Those with disabilities know that government-run health care will limit their ability to seek out and obtain specialized care and treatments. People who want naturopathic and homeopathic treatments know that government-run health care will limit their ability to obtain it.

Who will lose if this amendment passes? Those individuals and groups who believe that a government-run health care system, controlled by bureaucrats and special interests is the best kind of health care system reform.

The initiative will limit the power of special interest groups to engage in 'back room' or 'closed door' negotiations to get laws and regulations passed that claim to be for the benefit of all people, when in fact the laws and regulations first and foremost protect the interests of those who have the money and power to lobby most effectively.

This initiative is a non-partisan effort to preserve our individual autonomy and freedom regarding our medical rights.

Tami Heming, Sun City

Letter in SUPPORT of The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

Never should some unaccountable bureaucrat be able to control what health care options are available.

I am a physician assistant, and work alongside and under the supervision of physicians. Physician assistants play an invaluable role in making health care more available, more efficient, and safer for the people of Arizona.

The people of Arizona that I am privileged to help take care value their choices. Most everyone understands that, while our health care system has real problems, the solution should not involve the sacrifice of giving up personal control over their health and health care.

That is why The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act is so important to SUPPORT!

Vote YES on Proposition 101.

Physician Assistants (PAs) and all Arizonans should vote YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act!

Michelle Hitchcock, Physician Assistant, Surprise

RE: The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

I submitted 7000 petitions to the Arizona Legislature last November signed by patients and doctors in support of SB 1123 and SB 1236 who want unrestricted freedom of choice in healthcare.

We are well aware special interest groups wish to limit healthcare choices to a system which benefits those groups. To place the decision-making capacity for our healthcare in the hands of a government agency will further limit our choices, and further increase our dissatisfaction with "the system." Bureaucrats have no business making personal medical decisions for us.

Proposals abound that would worsen the situation by giving control to entities more interested in getting paid than giving good care. And the ugly issue of denying care to particular patients with specific problems – looms large.

Increasingly, consumers are rejecting the standard paradigm where you get a 10 minute office visit with someone on the "approved" providers list and walk out with a prescription while the assistant hollers, Next!" to a crowded waiting room.

Consumers are looking for better answers. More than 50 percent have stepped "out of the box" and partaken of Complementary and Alternative medicine. Often, consumers must pay out of their pockets for these treatments. They do so because they do not want to simply manage their disease, which is primarily what the conventional Standard of Care offers.

Attempts to put complete control over all health care delivery into the hands of an appointed bureaucracy means we will not even be able to pay out of own pockets if we wish to. Someone wants to draw a very tight noose around our necks. What a contemptuous lack of regard for we, the people.

We want better medicine, better health care, and that means letting the free market operate.

Linda Heming, Sun City

Now more than ever, we need to address the issue of covering the thousands of uninsured Arizonans. However, real change cannot be in haste. In order to find success we must first build a foundation for reform.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will create a constitutional amendment that lays the groundwork that will eventually help to effectively address this state's health care crisis. It is imperative that we enable our more than 6 million Arizona citizens to not be forced into a government regulated health care system, but rather provide them with the true, free and unencumbered choice of their own medical futures. In addition, this initiative will not hinder the efforts our government has already established through the AHCCCS program or Kids Care.

The Arizona Restaurant Association, the second largest trade organization in the state, representing one of Arizona's largest business communities and more than a quarter million employees, supports this measure and encourages the support of Arizona voters.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act is key to preserving Arizona's medical rights.

Steve Chucri, President & CEO, Arizona Restaurant Association, Phoenix

Pat Connors, Treasurer, Arizona Restaurant Association, Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Restaurant Association"

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT

I am a medical doctor specializing in endocrinology. I focus a great deal of my practice on the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes.

Before I entered private practice, I was a physician in the military. I had the opportunity to see what the practice of medicine is like in a world in which options and choices are controlled and limited—where budgets, bureaucracy, and politics decide the treatments, tests, and medicines available to the patient.

In the civilian world, people are free to set their own priorities and make their own choices. They can weigh the risks and benefits for themselves. They are free to decide if they want to try a new drug, a new test, or an alternative form of treatment.

I worry that, as our political leaders tackle the complicated issue of health care reform, special interest politics may lead to patients losing control over their own health care choices.

In the area of diabetes management, new drugs, tests, and even surgeries continue to be developed at a breathtaking pace. I don't want to see the day come when some bureaucrat, motivated by budgets and politics, is the one who decides whether a person with diabetes will be able to try a new drug or procedure. That decision should always rest with the patient.

That's why I'm supporting "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act." I want the right of the people to make their own health care choices to be guaranteed by the Arizona Constitution.

I urge you to vote YES on Prop. 101, "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act."

Richard O. Dolinar, MD, Clinical Endocrinologist, Glendale

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 101

I spent two years in a wheelchair and listened to several doctors express doubts I would ever walk again or be without an oxygen tank. However, thanks to the most dynamic medical system yet known to man, fabulous doctors, new drugs, and seven surgeries, I can walk and breathe normally and be a mother to my two children. Stories similar to mine are shared by millions of others.

What saved my life and theirs was medical CHOICE. If one doctor said it was hopeless, I was free to seek other help and opinions. Nobody said it just isn't cost effective to fix you!

Having lived the first 25 years of my life as a military dependent, I have a quarter century of experience with a government-run healthcare system. My health depended on the convenience of the system.

Let's not let this happen in America and especially right here in Arizona. We need to empower PATIENTS, not faceless insurance companies or government clerks. We need to strengthen the individual's right to choose the health care they need and the doctor they prefer.

"The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" makes health care choice a fundamental a right in Arizona. And just as importantly this measure does not infringe on the interests others may have to further expand health care for lower income individuals or children. It simply ensures that when it comes to health care, none of us will lose because we'll be able to choose . . . our doctor, our specialist, and the care we need to get better.

Vote YES on Proposition 101, "The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act."

Randy Kendrick, Paradise Valley

The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA), representing 1,500 osteopathic physicians (D.O.s), supports access to quality health care for Arizonans. Serving patients for their healthcare needs is a top priority. It is important that patients and their families be responsible and in control of their health care.

Our health care delivery "system" faces an uncertain future. The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will help maintain a wide array of health care treatment choices available and accessible to Arizonans now and into the future. More importantly, the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will protect the health care rights of all Arizonans.

The Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association and its members ask that you join with us and VOTE YES on this Proposition which will support the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Thank you.

Charles A. Finch, D.O., FACOEP, President, Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association, Phoenix

Amanda L. Weaver, MBA, Executive Director and Officer, Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association, Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association"

An Open Letter to Concerned Citizens:

The mission of The Arizona Homeopathic and Integrative Medical Association includes the need defend the freedoms and abilities of our member physicians to practice medicine in the best interests of the patient. This often includes grass roots political action and a medical model (approach) that encourages and enhances the body's own healing powers, maximizes your healing potential with proper diet and the use of natural substances like vitamins and minerals.

Through these procedures and techniques, thousands of Arizonans have seen their health improve and their quality of life enhanced.

The very ability of people to have access to the expertise of homeopathic and integrative practitioners is at risk. Some **other groups** and lobbying groups would like to make it **harder**, not easier, for patients to make homeopathic and integrative care one of their health care choices.

We believe that health care options that have been shown to make people better must be allowed and not get legislated out of existence just to protect and appease certain special interests.

We believe, The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act protects the rights of patients to choose, not just homeopathic care, but a wide array of health care approaches and modalities.

No bureaucrat should be able to prevent you from making your own decision regarding the best health care for you and your family.

Proposition 101, The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act, will PRESERVE and PROTECT YOUR HEALTH CARE RIGHTS. VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 101.

Bruce Shelton, MD, MD(H), DiHom, FBIH, President, Linda Wright, MD, MD(H), Secretary/Treasurer, Arizona
Arizona Homeopathic & Integrative Medical Association Homeopathic & Integrative Medical Association

Paid for by "Arizona Homeopathic & Integrative Medical Association"

As a nurse, caring for people means understanding their needs, their desires, and the specifics of their medical condition.

To provide the best care requires working with patients to see that they remain in control over their health and health care.

Health care reform should take into account the ability of patients to make their own choices first.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care act will protect and preserve the right of people to be in charge over their health and health care.

I have been a nurse for over 37 years—my patients will not be better off if government appointed bureaucrats control health care.

That is why The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act must be placed alongside the other freedoms we hold dear in the Arizona Constitution.

Join with me and vote YES for health care freedom.

Vote YES for keeping patients in charge over their health.

Vote YES for The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Vote YES on Proposition 101.

Terri Aldama, Registered Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educator, Banner Thunderbird Hospital, Glendale

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF "FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTHCARE ACT"

I have been a surgical nurse for over 30 years. In that time, I have seen how important it is for people to have control over their own health care decisions.

Whether we are talking about new forms of medical treatment, new surgical devices, or alternative forms of health care, we must respect the right of patients to be able to seek out, learn about, and choose what they decide is right for them.

I am concerned that, as our legislators attempt to bring needed reforms to our health care system, the various special interests—insurance companies, employer groups, political lobbyists—will influence the process in a way that will limit patients' rights to choose their own health care and health plan. We cannot let the financial interests of these lobbyist groups come ahead of the interests of patients.

The **Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act** guarantees—in the Arizona Constitution—that we the people will always have the right to choose what kind of doctor we want to see, what kind of therapy we want to try, what kinds of medicines or surgical devices we want to obtain, and what kind of health plans we agree to participate in.

We must guarantee **free to choose** health care.

I strongly urge you to join me in voting **YES** on the **Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act**.

Joyce McClain, RN, CNOR, RNFA, BSHCM, Surgical Nurse, Phoenix

Is this an important initiative? You can bet your life on it! Medical Choice for Arizona has devised a guarantee that patient choice will always be permitted.

Your body is not a Toyota. There are no standard practices that apply to everyone's heart problem, multiple fracture or constant headache. The government cannot and should not be the great arbiter of what your physician prescribes as treatment or medication for you. Even if you and your neighbor are both diagnosed with the same condition, many factors contribute to the best treatment for each of you, unlike the book of standards to repair a transmission in an old Ford or a new Honda. Health care is personal and individual. Your government can't design a program to fit your needs. Sadly we've come to a time when we have to take legal action to guarantee that you will always have a choice.

Do you really want a nameless, faceless and blameless government employee dictating what treatment or prescription you and your doctor decide is right for you? Do you want to wait for months to see a specialist for your heart condition when your file is lost in some giant "Medical Supervision" office?

Reforms are necessary in the health care field; however, taking away your choice is the most horrible approach. Government doesn't have the right to give you a choice, you already have that right. Government can only take away your choices. We now have to ensure against that.

You can bet your life this is an important initiative. I hope you will choose to vote YES and guarantee that you will always have a choice.

Joyce E. Downey, Scottsdale

I am a supporter of the Freedom of Choice Act.

I believe it is my right as a citizen of the United States of America to be able to choose and be an active scribe and decision maker to the health care of my choice. No law should be passed that restricts my ability to choose and be an active decision maker in my healthcare choices regarding insurance plans and healthcare systems of my choice. I also believe no law should be passed that would charge penalties and fines to make healthcare decisions on my own for the well being of myself and my family.

Thank you,

Stacy Stoffel, Scottsdale

No right is more precious than the right to be in control of your own health and health care.

I never want to contemplate a time when me or my family will wake up in the morning and have to hope that we can lobby a bunch of bureaucrats to get health care.

I know we have huge health care system problems, especially the unbelievable cost.

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But I do not want to think that some group of 'experts' will be able say that my life, my health issues are not "important enough", and that the "greater good" means that me, or my husband, or my children, or grandchildren are "not worth" treating. That is why The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act is so incredibly important to support. I urge you to VOTE YES on PROPOSITION 101. None of us should let bureaucrats have the chance to run our health and our lives---because they will run us right into the ground.

SUPPORT THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT!

VOTE YES to keep people in charge of their health.

The government can, does and will help the most unfortunate among us.

Proposition 101 protects them, protects me and my loved ones, and will protect all Arizonans from government bureaucrats that misunderstand my compassion as a license to control my health and health care.

VOTE YES on Proposition 101.

Barbara Brandt, R.N., Surprise

I support the Arizona Freedom of Choice Act. I do not now or at any time wish to have laws passed that restrict my freedom to choose a private health care plan of any type. I believe all citizens should have the right to make informed decisions about their health care. I do not believe I should be declined the right to pay for the healthcare of my choice, if this is my choice. I want to continue to be an active decision maker in regards to my doctors, hospitals, and healthcare coverage.

Thank you,

Melissa Painter, Phoenix

I grew up in England, but have lived the past 30 years in the United States. I am a surgical technician, and have worked with dozens of surgeons over these many years.

I can tell you with certainty that, in spite of our health care system problems, we must take the steps we need to ensure that health care freedom is protected here in Arizona.

I SUPPORT THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT.

We do not want a government-controlled system where access to even the simplest medical care - that we take for granted today in this country - is placed in the hands of bureaucrats who really have no direct connection or responsibility for any individual patient.

We must protect the right to seek second opinions and explore every possible alternative for care.

We must VOTE YES on Proposition 101.

Julia Campbell, Glendale

Letter in Support of The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

As a mother of five, I have had many chances to interact with doctors and nurses and other health care professionals as both a parent and as a patient. I have also worked in health care in nursing homes, physician offices, and hospitals for over 25 years.

I see the problems in our health care system first hand from many different perspectives.

And I know that unless we preserve and protect my rights to be remain in control over my health care and that of my children, the bureaucratic nightmares involved in getting care will expand beyond imagination.

It is vitally important that all Arizonans realize that a YES vote on Proposition 101 is a vote for freedom.

A YES vote on Proposition 101 will keep government bureaucrats from taking over our health and health care system.

I want all health care options to be available for everyone in my family and for those options to be protected forever.

VOTE YES ON THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT!

Rebecca Helems, Registered Medical Assistant, Yuma

Letter in Support of The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

I talk to patients every day in my job as a certified nursing assistant. I believe patients must be the ones to have the choices and control over their health and health care.

I am a mother and grandmother. I want my children and grandchildren to have every possible option for health care available to them.

I want traditional and alternative care, I want prescription medications, supplements, and natural methods to not be restricted by some government appointed 'experts' and bureaucrats that care more about their lobbyist buddies than me, my family and my patients.

That is why I am voting YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

That is why all Arizonans should vote YES on Proposition 101.

Keep special interests away from my health care choices.

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 101.

Laureen Vines, Certified Nursing Assistant, Mesa

Letter in Support of The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

I am a native of Great Britain who is a proud naturalized American citizen. I have lived and seen firsthand how a government bureaucracy is not capable of providing individualized, compassionate, patient- driven health care.

Much of my family and many friends are still in England, living under the rules of a failing health care system. And while we certainly have problems in this country with cost and access, the options and availability of choices in health care, including the latest life-saving technologies, are far better in Arizona and the United States than in England.

We mustn't let slick partisans peddle their government snake oil cure to our health care woes.

We must stand up and take the steps to protect our rights first, before the lobbyists can take over.

We must vote YES and SUPPORT Proposition 101.

We must protect our health and health care rights!

When I stood and took an oath of allegiance to this great nation, I made a pledge to support the ideals that make America great.

That is why I urge you to VOTE YES on The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act!

Janet Hughes, Peoria

Letter in SUPPORT of The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act

Spelling, grammar and punctuation were reproduced as submitted in the "for" and "against" arguments.

Issued by: Secretary of State Jan Brewer

PROPOSITION 101

My father was a cardiologist.

I have been a radiology technologist for 44 years.

How medicine has changed. My father would be simply amazed at the remarkable array of medications, imaging techniques, therapies, treatments, and surgeries that have become available since he passed away in 1972—health care choices that now routinely save, prolong, and improve lives.

No doubt he would share my horror that the gross intrusion of an uncaring and uninformed bureaucracy that cares mostly about special interests and lobbyists.

I have lived my whole life in health care, from the eyes of a child, to a proud professional, to a patient, to a devoted care-giver.

I want my health care rights protected.

I am voting YES on PROPOSTION 101.

VOTE YES ON THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT!

Jaquelyn P. Costa, Registered Radiology and Mammography Technologist, Surprise

I am a supporter of the Freedom of Choice Act.

As a small business owner, I am a firm believer in having the ability to choose my own healthcare, as it fits my needs, but also be able to tailor healthcare options to the needs of my employees.

As a Husband and Father, my family's well being must always come first when it comes to their health and subsequent care. In the last year, my daughter has spent 6 months in a pediatric hospital, in which we had a choice as to which one was best suited, got several opinions, not to excess and eventually was able to diagnose and treat her appropriately. We have also chosen to utilize Alternative medicine in the treatment of most common sickness and other minor medical issues, as the answer isn't always in a pill.

All of these options are important to me and my family. Thankfully, we live in a country/state that still affords us these options. I do not believe any law or lawmaker or lobbyist should interfere with a right that is so personal, as ones healthcare.

Sincerely,

Shawn VanDyke, Phoenix

I am one of the 330,000 Arizona citizens who signed the petition for the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act as I believe in the merits of this act.

As I owner of a small business, I am a firm believer in providing my employees with full health care coverage and for them to have the ability to choose their providers of this health care. The relationship between a patient and their provider is a very special one, and as such, patients need to have the ability to choose with whom they want to develop this relationship.

We live in an incredible country and there are endless benefits to being an American citizen. One such freedom is the ability to make our own, personal choices for healthcare coverage. I do not believe that any law or law maker should interfere with this freedom. This is why I support the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Sincerely,

Ken Kobs, Phoenix

I value the freedoms granted and protected in our state and country. Nowhere else in the world does opportunity and possibility offer so much for so many.

And that is why I am SUPPORTING The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act!

As a nurse with many years of experience, I work hard to see to it that my patients remain in control of their health and health care. I do not want to see government bureaucrats take over that control.

Many choices for health care exist, and some work better for certain people than others. It can be a real challenge to balance health conditions, patient and family desires, and available treatment options. What is right for my family and me may not be right for yours.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act PROTECTS the health care rights of ALL Arizonans.

VOTE YES on Proposition 101.

Al Pina, Phoenix

Prompt, efficient, appropriate and safe health care. That is the kind of care I pride myself in being a part of during my 27 years as an operative room nurse.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will help protect the ability of me and my colleagues to continue to provide that kind of care.

As a patient, I want to continue to be in control of my health care and to keep all of my options open.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will preserve my right to be in control of my health care.

I support PROPOSITION 101.

I urge you to VOTE YES on THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE ACT.

Susan Hanson, Peoria

As a practicing non physician surgical assistant, I recognize the fundamental need for patients to have their right to be in control of their health and health care choices.

I work with surgeons through out the greater Phoenix metropolitan area. I understand that having the right physician performing the right operation, at the right time, requires more than just empty government and bureaucrat promises. As a provider of medical services that is involved in essential support services to doctors, nurses and hospitals on behalf of the surgical patient, I am acutely aware of the impact of seemingly arbitrary and random rules and regulations.

The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act will preserve and protect patients' rights, and I wholeheartedly support the Initiative.

My craft involves helping patients get their surgeries performed safely and efficiently. I strongly believe that keeping control of health care decisions in the hands of patients and families, and out of the hands of special interests who are more interested in getting paid than the care given to particular patients with specific problems, is essential on the issue of patients' rights.

I encourage all Arizonans to vote YES to protect health care freedom.

I want all Arizonans to vote YES to keep control over health care out of the hands of bureaucrats and special interests.

I want all Arizonans to vote YES on Prop 101, The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act.

Eugene O. Smith, B.S., C.S.A., Phoenix

I am concerned Arizona is the focus of efforts that will be described as "the solution to universal health care" but are really about creating a government-run health care system that will not be accountable to patients, the consumer.

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A government-run health care plan will be shaped in great part by special interest groups who generously fund political campaigns. The end result would hijack everyone's right to make their own choices in healthcare in an effort to force the flow of patients' dollars to special interest groups.

Patients are resisting the domination of medicine by the pharmaceutical and insurance industries. Many doctors are resisting an industrial "one size fits all" approach to human health. Increasingly, patients and doctors want a wider range of choices in health care.

The creation of HMOs and PPOs gave insurance companies more control. If I asked for applause from those who like how that turned out, the silence would be deafening. Shall we take it three steps further? No.

It simply is in the best interest of good healthcare not to put control over all health care delivery in the hands of an appointed bureaucracy.

A variety of health care treatment alternatives exist and the public should be able to partake freely of those opportunities. We should not be forced into a government created plan about which we have no meaningful input, no control, no redress.

I support the Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act as an initiative for the November 2008 ballot in Arizona. It will protect my right to make my own health care choices.

Mary Budinger, Phoenix

Our healthcare system has problems, **but FREEDOM has NEVER been one of them!**

Prop 101 protects your rights as consumers to have the freedom to choose your own doctor, hospital, health plan, treatment, etc.

Some politicians are pushing a government takeover as the only solution to our healthcare problems. They think they know better than you. They want to socialize medicine; they want a "single payer" system. **Do you really want the same type of government bureaucrat who ran FEMA during Hurricane Katrina to dictate your doctor, your health plan, and your treatment?**

When I get bad service at a restaurant or store, I have the freedom to go down the street to their competitor. If they provide bad service, I can change again; no government permission required.

Every year, I get a physical. The lab facility closest to my home always has a long wait, so I pay a little more and drive down the street to a location without waiting. Others may prefer a location that is cheaper or closer to home, and are willing to wait. Competition and the freedom to choose allow both of us to be satisfied.

There are many reasons to want the freedom to choose your own doctor. Choosing a doctor is a very personal decision. Each person values location, education, experience, and just plain old "bedside manner" differently. You should not have to get permission from a government bureaucrat to change doctors for any reason; it should remain a personal decision.

This initiative does not prevent the government from fixing our healthcare problems. **It just says that whatever they do, they cannot take away your right to choose your own doctor, hospital, health plan, or treatment.**

Freedom works!

That's why I am voting YES on Prop 101.

Dean Martin, State Treasurer, Phoenix

ARGUMENTS "AGAINST" PROPOSITION 101

Argument Against "Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act"

The Arizona Coalition for a State and National Health Plan opposes the "Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" initiative to amend the Arizona Constitution.

1. An Amendment limiting future legislation is dangerous. No one can predict what laws may be needed to improve the health of Arizonans.

2. The Amendment will NOT assure one's freedom to choose a personal physician, but will prevent the state from creating a system assuring everyone access to the care they require. This amendment will require private alternatives that may not be universal, would limit services, and exclude individuals with preconditions. This is not "choice," it is a mandate for restrictions.

3. Arizonans who now rely on Medicare or Medicaid could lose coverage. Private alternatives would have to be created to satisfy the amendment, but coverage of the elderly or the poor is not profitable. With no alternatives, Medicare and Medicaid could be lost.

4. The Proposition's goal, **to prevent abuses associated with "socialized" medicine**, is irrational. The only "socialized" medical programs in the US are the Veterans Health System, the Indian Health Service, and military medical services. None abuse the private sector. Socialized systems are funded by the Government. They provide services in government facilities by professionals who work for the U.S. Public Health Service. No one is abused by "socialized medicine" in America.

5. Passage of a Constitutional Amendment in Arizona would limit legislative options. It will increase the abuses that private practitioners, hospitals, and patients now suffer from private insurance carriers. The industry dictates reimbursement, determines the services patients receive, and dictates who shall be granted or denied access to care.

Jonathan B. Weisbuch, MD, MPH, FACPM, Chair,
Arizona Coalition for a State and National Health Plan,
Phoenix

Mary Ellen Bradshaw, MD, Co-Chair, Arizona Coalition
for a State and National Health Plan, Phoenix

Paid for by "Jonathan Weisbuch"

ARGUMENT AGAINST C-15-2008:

Vote NO!

The health care system in the United States is seriously flawed, causing people to be maimed, and according to the U.S. Academy of Science causing at least 18,000 to die each year because they lack health care insurance.

This proposal wants the citizens of Arizona to be prevented from being able to obtain 'universal health care' for all.

In the spring of 2008, **Frontline**, the Public Broadcasting System show, surveyed the 'universal health care' systems of five industrial nations (i.e., Japan, Great Britain, Switzerland, Taiwan, and Germany) in order to compare them to the fragmented health care system in the United States.

The largest economy in the world (i.e., United States) ranks 25th, 30th, 35th, etc. for various medical morbidity and mortality statistics compared to Japan (the number two economy) with Japan's health statistics always in the top ten.

Yet, the U.S. has the most expensive health care system by far. The U.S. per capita health care costs twice as much as Japan. The U.S. squanders 16% of our Gross Domestic Product for health care compared to Japan's 8%. In addition, only 6.5% of the health cost in Japan is for administration compared to the U.S.'s 21.5%. No health care - just paperwork and profits while people are crippled or die.

All five countries surveyed contained three key elements: (1) all citizens must have health insurance - whether private or governmental was irrelevant, (2) no citizen may be denied coverage because of pre-existing conditions, and (3) the insurance compa-

nies can not make a profit.

This proposal prevents "Health care coverage for all in Arizona while allowing persons without insurance to die".
Vote NO!

Bradley K. Vandermark, Phoenix

We at Healthy Arizona have demonstrated our ability to put before you initiatives that made sense and brought health care to literally hundreds of thousands of hard-working, low income Arizona families. You've voted, overwhelmingly, twice, for what we've put on the ballot, because you recognized that we are on your side, have no special interests to placate, and share your values. We are now asking you to vote NO on Prop 101, because it is a really bad idea.

"The Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act" purports to offer more "choice" of health insurance to Arizonans, when, in fact, it would prevent us from being able to choose from a number of options that are available, and are being tried and proven elsewhere. Why would anyone propose that we close the door before we know what works and what doesn't?

There are now over 1 million Arizonans without health insurance-- 1/5 of our state population. This affects us all, by raising health costs for untreated illnesses, at the time when treatment is the most effective, and least expensive. The problem is getting worse, as insurance rates soar. This cannot go on. Let's leave our options open, to borrow approaches used by other states, and even other countries, to hold down costs and improve access to care!

Vote NO on Prop 101!

Eve Shapiro, MD, MPH, Chair, Health Arizona, Tucson

Paid for by "Healthy Arizona"

"Church Women United urges a NO vote.

This initiative has the deceptive appearance of giving you more choices, but, really, it is about limiting our choices. We all know that this state is in a crisis about folks not being able to get health insurance, and about individuals being thrown off their plans, and businesses no longer being able to offer insurance. Half the people in bankruptcy are there because of healthcare costs, and a lot of them had insurance that they had paid into, for years, but the coverage got smaller and the premiums larger, and the bills came in.

The only "choice" a lot of folks have, increasingly, is to have no insurance, or less-than-adequate insurance, and to hope and pray for good health. Well, our faith traditions tell us that we are supposed to be about healing each other, and today that means helping each other figure out how to access the miracles of modern medicine. It means a community response, well thought out, and with everybody participating and everybody benefiting. A response chosen by the people, together.

But this initiative turns our state constitution into a roadblock, a barrier to options we might like to consider, in these next few years, while we are working, together, to get it right. Let's decide what YES looks like, before we let special interests start putting NO in cement.

Give us, all of us, more time, to get it right. Vote AGAINST this initiative."

Carolyn Redmore, President, Church Women United in
Tucson, Tucson

Jane Rohwer, Finance Chairperson, Church Women
United in Tucson, Tucson

Paid for by "Church Women United in Tucson"

"As candidates for Arizona Green Party, we urge a NO vote.

The people who govern us have diddled around, scared by lobbyists and special interests, and have given us a two tiered healthcare system: a decent one for lawmakers, and for folks for whom money is no concern, and a third-world healthcare system for the rest of us. In measure after measure of healthcare decency, we score, not first in the world, but sixteenth, or twenty-third, or eighth, or seventy-ninth. Long waits in other countries, for nonemergency care? Long waits here, if you've looked lately. And then the insurance, that you've paid into all your life, raises rates, raises co-pays, or doesn't pay at all.

The solution has to be an American one, because this is who we are. But to find the solution, we have to get past the myths, and look at the reality. We need to understand why our healthcare system is the most expensive in the world, yet delivers so much less than it should. Did you know that a full third of the money spent on healthcare in this country goes to bureaucratic "management," ie, the insurance industry? Did you know that our much-touted pharmaceutical industry spends more on advertising than on research? There are some big mistakes being made here, and nobody is willing to look it over, and rein it in.

"Choice" is not simply about individuals choosing between lousy options-- it is about voters choosing to create better options to choose from. You can learn more about this measure, and about other initiatives, on the AzGP website, at www.azgp.org

Meanwhile, vote NO. "

Claudia Ellquist, Green Party Candidate for Pima
County Attorney, Tucson

Kent Solberg, Green Party Candidate for the Arizona
House, Legislative District 27, Tucson

Paid for by "Elect Ellquist"

ARGUMENT AGAINST C-15-2008 THE MEDICAL CHOICE FOR ARIZONA, OR FREEDOM TO CHOOSE ACT

The Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics opposes PROP 101 "The **Medical Choice for Arizona** or **Freedom to Choose Act**."

As pediatricians, we think that Arizona residents should be able to choose among a wide variety of health care reform proposals to decrease the number of Arizona children who lack health insurance. There are currently over one million Arizona residents who are uninsured, including over 250,000 children. Lack of health insurance hurts all of us by increasing the use of emergency departments, decreasing preventive care services which increase the risk of communicable disease, and cost shifting of the expenses incurred by the uninsured on the insured population.

This measure would prevent us from adopting many of the proposed health care reform measures currently under consideration at both the local and national level to address the increasing numbers of uninsured. We need to have every potential option for health care reform available for Arizona's children and their families. We also do not want to see loopholes created in our Arizona constitution which would allow insurance companies to deny health insurance coverage for any reason.

We must defeat this measure so that all options for increasing insurance coverage for Arizona children are available. Therefore, Arizona's pediatricians urge you to vote no on PROP 101, the **Medical Choice for Arizona** or **Freedom to Choose Act**.

Keith Dveirin, MD, FAAP, Immediate Past President,
Arizona Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics,
Phoenix

Gretchen Hull, MD, FAAP, Secretary, Arizona Chapter,
American Academy of Pediatrics, Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics"

WESTMARC urges a NO VOTE on Proposition 101!

WESTMARC is a regional coalition of business, government, and education that advocates for good public policy. As a partnership between business and government, it is paramount that we thoroughly consider public policy issues and work collaboratively toward public policy that is good for our West Valley region and our state.

WESTMARC has thoroughly reviewed Proposition 101 and does not believe that the Medical Choice for Arizona Initiative will be beneficial to our region and state.

WESTMARC believes that:

- the language of the Initiative is ambiguous and unclear and accordingly raises far more questions than it answers;
- because of the ambiguity and lack of clarity the Initiative will likely invite costly and lengthy litigation;
- since this is a Constitutional change, the unintended consequences will haunt Arizonans forever;
- out-of-state interests continually seek to implement philosophical and policy changes through Arizona's relatively easy initiative process as a precedent for those changes elsewhere in the country; this Initiative has an overwhelming portion of its funding from out-of-state; and

there doesn't appear to be any need for the Initiative because we can't determine there's any problem the Initiative is trying to fix.

WESTMARC believes in our freedoms and appreciates our choices in a free market. However a change of this potential magnitude without the benefit of clear and open public discussion is not the way we should develop and or change public policy.

We encourage you to join WESTMARC in opposing the Medical Choice for Arizona Initiative and urge you to vote NO on Proposition 101!

Ray L. Jones, Chairman, WESTMARC, Peoria

Jack W. Lunsford, President & CEO, WESTMARC,
Peoria

Paid for by "WESTMARC"

This measure is not about guaranteeing choice. It's about making sure Arizonans are required to channel our health care dollars into the pockets of big insurance companies and the for-profit health care industry. Make no mistake, the backers of this measure view health care like any other business that must generate increasing revenues for its shareholders. Private insurers spend billions of dollars a year on marketing and advertising. Their top executives take home multi-million dollar salaries. They deliver handsome profits to their shareholders. And they employ staff whose primary job is to deny claims or otherwise make it difficult for patients to access the coverage for which they pay their monthly premiums. As a result, administrative costs in the private health insurance industry are four to ten times as high as those of government backed health care plans like Medicare.

If this initiative were to pass, Arizonans would be barred from ever choosing a government backed universal health care plan that would make sure every Arizonan was covered, regardless of pre-existing conditions or ability to pay. Proposition 101 is protectionism for the health care industry. They want to be protected from competition so that they can continue to increase profits on the backs of hard-working Arizonans. We think the health care industry is already making plenty of money. We urge voters to reject this deceptively named measure and Vote No on Proposition 101.

The Arizona Advocacy Network promotes social, economic, racial and environmental justice by educating voters on ballot measures and by working to achieve quality, affordable health care for all.

Michael J. Valder, President, Arizona Advocacy
Network, Phoenix

Eric Ehst, Treasurer, Arizona Advocacy Network,
Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Advocacy Network"

Don't be fooled by the so-called Freedom of Choice in Healthcare Act. This is not about the freedom of consumers to "choose" their own healthcare but is designed to guarantee insurance companies and doctors the freedom to continue making windfall profits at our expense. Passage of Prop 101 will constitutionally prevent the Legislature or the voters from instituting healthcare solutions that limit costs or guarantee treatment.

If you're happy with the state of our current healthcare system, if you think you are getting good service at fair prices, if you think that having thousands of uninsured children is acceptable, if you think that denial of coverage for serious medical conditions is fair, this is the proposition for you. This measure ensures the continuation of the status quo, with ever increasing prices and ever decreasing quality of service.

If you think we deserve better, don't vote for this "Insurance Company Protection Act." Join with Arizona NOW to **vote NO on Prop 101.**

Eric Ehst, Policy Coordinator (President), Arizona
National Organization for Women, Phoenix

Marge Mead, Legislative Coordinator, Vice President,
Arizona National Organization for Women, Sun City

Paid for by "Arizona National Organization for Women"

I oppose PROP 101' the "Medical Choice" Initiative, because it Could restrict the ability of the state to reasonably limit abortion and other medical services in appropriate circumstances. The initiative says, "No law shall interfere with a person's or an entity's right to pay directly for lawful medical services." Abortion is a lawful medical service, yet the state currently has the ability to limit it in certain circumstances. Under this initiative, the state Could lose that ability. That means that the state could not, for example, as it has in the past, prohibit insurance coverage for abortion in certain reasonable situations. Currently, the state forbids the use of taxpayer money for abortions for minors in foster care and, in many cases, for those receiving welfare benefits (AHCCCS). Even beyond the abortion issue, this initiative has red flags. Consider what an "entity" might be. An insurance company? A school district? A community center? A state agency? This vague, wide-open, unrestricted initiative has no exclusions and no boundaries. It needs a lot more scrutiny than it has received. Please vote NO on PROP 101.

Charlotte Reed, President, Arizona Republican
Assembly, Phoenix

Gene Reed, 1st Vice President, Arizona Republican
Assembly, Phoenix

Paid for by "Arizona Republican Assembly"

BALLOT FORMAT

PROPOSITION 101

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
BY THE INITIATIVE RELATING TO HEALTH CARE**

OFFICIAL TITLE

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; AMENDING ARTICLE II OF THE ARIZONA CONSTITUTION BY ADDING SECTION 36 OF ARTICLE II; RELATING TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE.

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

PROHIBITS LAWS THAT: RESTRICT PERSON'S CHOICE OF PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS OR PRIVATE PLANS; INTERFERE WITH PERSON'S OR ENTITY'S RIGHT TO PAY DIRECTLY FOR LAWFUL MEDICAL SERVICES; IMPOSE A PENALTY OR FINE FOR CHOOSING TO OBTAIN OR DECLINE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE OR FOR PARTICIPATION IN ANY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM OR PLAN.

A "yes" vote shall have the effect of prohibiting laws that restrict a person's choice of private health care systems or private plans, interfere with a person or an entity's right to pay for lawful medical services, and impose a penalty or fine for choosing to obtain or decline health care coverage or for participation in any health care system or plan.

YES ☐

A "no" vote shall have the effect of retaining the current law regarding a person or entity's health care choices.

NO ☐

PROPOSITION 101